Workplace Protection Linked to Higher Earnings For Less-Educated Gay Men

Among less-educated men, partnered gay men increase their earnings relative to men partnered with women in the 11 states that protected workers from discrimination based on sexual orientation in 1999. Incomes of less-educated partnered gay men are on average $5,700 lower than those of their heterosexual counterparts in states with no antidiscrimination provisions. In states with the protection, partnered gay men have average incomes only $600 below those of heterosexual coupled men.

Mean Earnings, 1999

Full-time Employed Cohabiting and Married Men with No High School Diploma, Ages 25-54

Source: Urban Institute, Census 2000 (1% Public Use Microdata Sample).
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